

# California OES Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, December 23, 2021  
9:00 AM PST

**Day 1 (Thursday):** Periods of rain and mountain snow will spread over much of the state, with gusty winds also expected across the Sierra and other higher terrain areas. Some precipitation may be heavy at times, with impacts to travel likely over the mountains, while some flooding could develop across coastal southern California by tonight.

National Weather Service

*Western Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Salt Lake City, UT*



# **WEATHER KEY POINTS**

**12/23/21 - 12/29/21**

## **Thursday - Wednesday**

- An extended period of wet weather will bring periods of heavy rain and mountain snow through the end of the week into the holiday weekend
  - Several feet of mountain snow are likely above 7000 feet, especially in the Sierra, with significant travel impacts expected
    - Snow levels will start around 4500-6500 feet (highest over the central and southern Sierra through tonight), with levels lowering considerably through the weekend and early next week. Snow levels may dip as low as 1,000 feet across northern California by Sunday morning and into early next week
    - Snow levels will also lower across southern California through Friday, with accumulation mainly above 8,000 feet
  - At lower elevations, periods of moderate to locally heavy rainfall are expected
    - The most significant threat of flooding is expected over southern California, with flooding possible in urban areas and other locations with poor drainage
    - Flooding and debris flows are also possible across southern California burn scars, and the burn scars that are currently of the greatest concern are the Bond, Apple, and El Dorado, with the heaviest rain expected on those scars Thursday night through Friday morning
  - Gusty winds are also forecast at times for late week and the weekend, especially in the Sierra and the southern California mountains
    - Periods of gusty winds of 40 to locally 60+ mph could lead to minor damage, including downed tree limbs and localized power outages
- Additional storms could impact the state for much of next week, though the exact details remain uncertain at this time



# CALIFORNIA WEATHER IMPACTS

12/23/21 - 12/29/21

<u>Hazards / Day</u>	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
<b>Non-Thunderstorm Damaging Winds</b>	Inland/ Southern	Inland/ Southern	Coastal/ Inland	Inland/ Southern	Inland/ Southern		
<b>Snow</b>	Inland	All Regions	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland
<b>Coastal Flooding</b>							
<b>River Flooding</b>							
<b>Thunderstorms</b> (Wind / Hail / Tornadoes)	Coastal/ Inland						
<b>Fire Weather</b> (Low Humidity / Wind / Dry Thunderstorms)							
<b>Heat Risk</b>							
<b>Heavy Rain/Flash Flooding/ Debris Flow</b>	All Regions	All Regions	All Regions	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland		
<b>Cold</b>							



No Impacts



Minimal Impacts



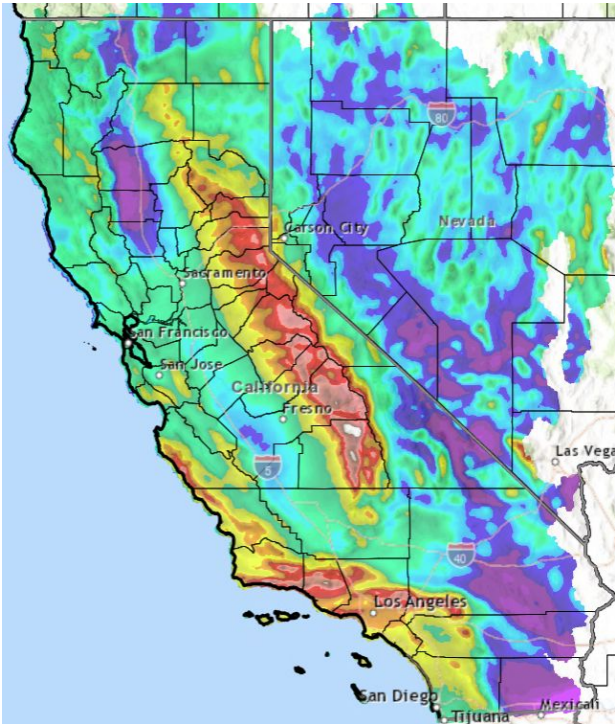
Moderate Impacts



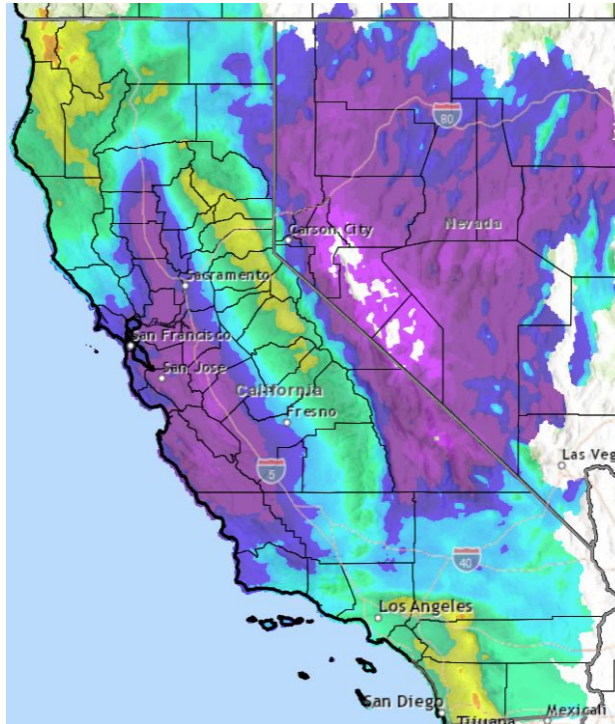
Severe Impacts

# PRECIPITATION FORECAST

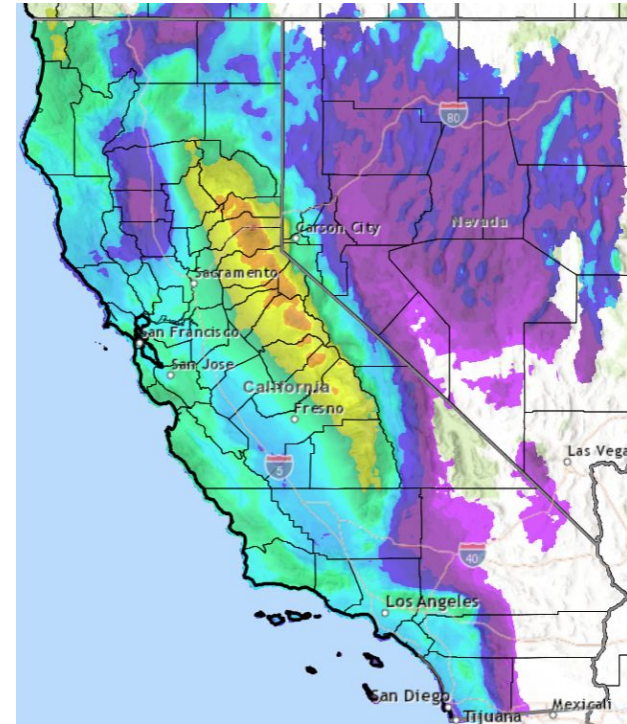
12/23/21 - 12/25/21



Thursday



Friday



Saturday

**Note:** Forecast precipitation amounts are an average for any particular location. Thunderstorms may produce locally higher rainfall amounts.

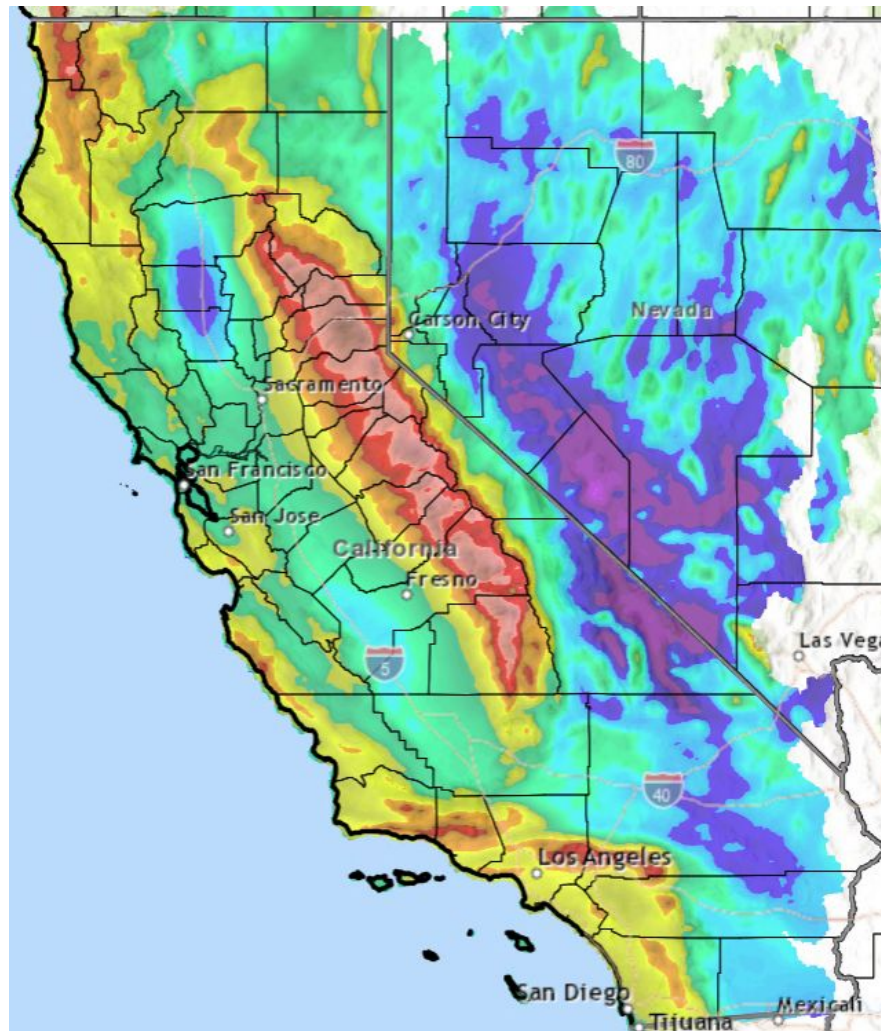
**Precipitation (inches)**





# 6 DAY PRECIPITATION FORECAST

4 AM 12/23/21 - 4 AM 12/29/21



Precipitation (inches)



# **WEATHER OUTLOOK**

**12/28/21 - 01/05/22**

## **6-10 Day Outlook (December 28 – January 1)**

### **Temperatures**

- Below normal temperatures are strongly favored statewide

### **Precipitation**

- Above normal precipitation is favored statewide

## **8-14 Day Outlook (December 30 – January 5)**

### **Temperatures**

- Below normal temperatures are strongly favored statewide

### **Precipitation**

- Above normal precipitation is slightly favored statewide



Information provided by:

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